Civilian Review and Accountability Board

1/26 Meeting Notes

Members Present
Jennifer Green, Chair
Turney Berry
Stachelle Bussey
Barbara Haigler
Charles Keyes
Marianna Michael
Denise Sears
Guillermo Sollano
Kellie Watson

Guests and Staff Present:

Edward Harness Lena Muldoon Stella Dorsey Katrina Sigala

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Jennifer Green, Chair - thanked members of the Civilian Review and Accountability Board (CR&AB) for attending. Explained that out of an abundance of caution the need to continue meeting virtually due to Omicron, but hope to have hybrid meeting options moving forward in 2022

She welcomed Ed Harness, and recalled how nice it was to see members at the welcome reception in December

II. Approval of Agenda

Charles Keyes made the motion to approve All members approved

III. Public Comment

No public comment at this time, but prior to the next meeting Ed Harness will circulate a request for public comment and include on the agenda moving forward

IV. Approval of October 27, 2021 meeting summary

Barbara Haigler – motion to approve All members voted to approve the summary

V. Discussion and Possible Action

a. Update subpoena power legislation

Lena Muldoon

- met with rural legislators last Thursday to introduce Ed and learn more about the OIG
- Responsive and welcoming to Ed; positive feedback
- Amenable to reviewing the legislation and learning more about it
- Senator Morgan McGarvey to file bill for subpoena power same bill that was introduced in the last session

Ed Harness

– appreciated the opportunity; positive feedback, more work to do and hopefully will get the bill passed

Jennifer Green

- Ed is bringing a factual experience to the conversation which is extremely beneficial and helpful
- Preserving the trust and integrity of the Board

Turney Berry

- can we get a list of the legislators that you met with just in case we run into them so we can also discuss the issue?

Charles Keyes

- I would like the list too

Lena

- Yes, will send to all members

Jennifer

– major legislative priority for the city; Ed brings experience and a factual component that the Board does not have to carry

b. OIG Staffing Update

Ed Harness

- identified candidate for Administrative Coordinator, current city employee; waiting for start date
- IG investigator (3 positions) U15 level; Bachelors degree; 5 years investigator experience; paid on par as a Sgt. In LMPD
- Position with Talent and Retention; hoping to post in the next few weeks
- City job far in March
- Will post position local and nationally

1. Ombudsman Program

Ed Harness

- considering bringing the ombudsman program of the Human Relations Commission to the OIG
- Discussed with Director Meeks, Chief Shields, and HRC staff person
- That way they do not have to swear out a complaint at LMPD
- Does not mean OIG will investigate the complaint
- Provided an overview of the ombudsman program; Stella Dorsey helps them file against LMPD and goes with them to LMPD
- Most complaints that she receives would not be investigated by OIG, such as rudeness, customer service etc.
- But complaints could be used to identify patterns
- Need to have consistent data reporting which is something to look at

2. Update Board Trainings

Ed Harness

- Just a reminder to update Ed on progress of the ride-alongs
- Ed discussed the need for a training around use of force and 4th amendment seizure

3. Complaint investigation process

Ed Harness

- Presented a draft of a complaint investigation process
- Discussed integrating the Ombudsman program into the investigation process
- CR&AB will need to establish criteria for determining when a full investigation will take place
- Discussed when and how CR&AB will receive investigation reports

4. FY/2023 Budget

Ed Harness

- Discussed budget timelines
- Includes facilitation of CR&AB activities
 - o Training/NACOLE in Ft. Worth 2022
 - o Meetings broadcast on Facebook Live
- Community engagement position
 - o Engagement through social media presence
- Submit budget proposal ideas to Ed

5. Board workshop

Vice Chair Watson

- Discussed purpose of an upcoming workshop
- Awaiting a finalized proposal from a candidate
- Member Berry suggested a candidate to conduct the workshop
- Possible workshop topic exploring cohesion with the community and vision

6. Other business

- Ed will send out reminder and collect info for CR&AB officer elections for the March meeting
- Board member whose term are about to expire will be renewed